

In re Application of:

Noriaki HASHIMOTO

Serial No.: 09/523,375

Filed: March 10, 2000

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPERATION OF A RESILIENT CLOSED COMMUNICATION NETWORK WITHOUT A DEDICATED PROTECTION NETWORK SEGMENT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2739

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Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing of a first Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant does not believe a fee is due for the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. A concise explanation of the relevance is provided for one of the listed documents that is not in English pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art."

If the Examiner applies the documents as "prior art" against any claims in the Application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

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50-1349. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR

EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Dated: October 23, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

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